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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY
PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS
GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



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FCC taking steps that would allow US prisons to jam prisoners' cellphone signals

By MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

CHAPIN, S.C. (AP) — Federal officials on Friday said they are taking steps that will give state and federal prisons the right to jam the signals of cellphones smuggled to inmates, devices they argue allow prisoners to plot violence and carry out crimes.

FCC Chairman Brendan Carr said Friday during a news conference in Arkansas that his agency would vote at its Sept. 30 meeting on a proposal to lift a restriction in place that prohibits state and federal prisons from jamming signals of phones that prisoners aren't allowed to have.

The debate over using technology to make the devices often smuggled behind bars and even delivered over prison fences by drones and hollowed-out footballs has been ongoing for years, with prison officials saying these actions allow inmates to run criminal enterprises while incarcerated.

"It may not be a silver bullet, it may not be the right fit for every facility, but there are certainly lots and lots of facilities around this country where this type of solu-



Correctional Officer Jose Sandoval inspects one of the more than 2,000 cell phones confiscated from inmates at California State Prison, Solano in Vacaville, Calif., April 10, 2009.

Associated Press

tion will and can make a significant difference," Carr said. "Every single day that goes by, we're leaving the American public exposed, and we're going to close that loophole."

Officials said smuggled phones allowed inmates to orchestrate a 2018 gang-related siege that raged for more than seven hours at a South Carolina prison, killing seven inmates in the worst U.S. prison riot in 25

years.

They've also, according to officials, been used to orchestrate violence outside prisons. Robert Johnson, who worked as an anti-contraband officer at one of South Carolina's most violent prisons, survived six shots to the stomach and chest as he prepared to head to work in 2010, becoming an advocate for the use of jamming technology.

Many incremental moves on the issue have involved South Carolina, whose former state prisons director Bryan Stirling became a national advocate for the use of jamming technology. In 2016, Stirling hosted then-FCC Chairman Ajit Pai to tour South Carolina prisons and hold a field hearing in the state.

In 2019, federal officials oversaw a test of jamming technology at a South

Carolina prison. The state was also first to apply for a permit after the FCC in 2021 adopted a ruling that would allow state prison systems to apply for permits to identify and turn off illegal cell signals, but action on the application stalled. Prosecutors from around the country have called on Congress to change a nearly century-old federal communications law that currently prevents state prisons from using jamming technology to nullify illicit cell signals, but those efforts have also failed. On Friday, Carr said that his agency's upcoming vote would technically "deauthorize the lawful use of contraband cell phones" in prisons, something he said would mean current federal law "is no longer a prohibition to jamming" them. In a statement, officials with CTIA, a wireless industry group that opposes jamming, said providers are "committed to addressing the serious issue of contraband phones while fulfilling the longstanding Congressional mandate to protect legitimate communications, including vital public safety services, from interference." □

Judge blocks Trump administration's ending of legal protections for 1.1M Venezuelans and Haitians

By JANIE HAR
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal judge on Friday blocked the Trump administration from ending temporary legal protections that have granted more than 1 million people from Haiti and Venezuela the right to live and work in the United States.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge Edward Chen of San Francisco for the plaintiffs means 600,000 Venezuelans whose temporary protections expired in April or whose protections were about to expire Sept. 10 have status to stay and work in the United States. It also keeps protections for about 500,000 Haitians.

Chen said Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem's actions in terminating and vacating three extensions

granted by the previous administration exceeded her statutory authority and were arbitrary and capri-

cious.

The Department of Homeland Security did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Temporary Protected Status is a designation that can be granted by the Homeland Security secretary to people in the United States, if conditions in their homelands are deemed unsafe for return due to a natural disaster, political instability or other dangerous conditions.

Designations are granted for terms of six, twelve or 18 months, and extensions can be granted so long as conditions remain dire. The status prevents holders from being deported and allows them to work.

Soon after taking office, Noem reversed three extensions granted by the previous administration to immigrants from Venezuela and Haiti, prompting the lawsuit. Noem said that conditions in both Haiti and Venezuela had improved and that it was not in the national interest to allow migrants from the countries to stay on for what is a temporary program.

Millions of Venezuelans have fled political unrest, mass unemployment and hunger. The country is mired in a prolonged crisis brought on by years of hyperinflation, political corruption, economic mismanagement and an ineffectual government. □



Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem speaks to reporters before touring "Camp 57," a facility to house immigration detainees at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, La., Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

Trump executive order renames the Department of Defense as the Department of War

By **CHRIS MEGERIAN, SEUNG MIN KIM and KONSTANTIN TOROPIN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump signed an executive order Friday renaming the Department of Defense as the Department of War a long-telegraphed move aimed at projecting American military toughness around the globe.

"It's a much more appropriate name, especially in light of where the world is right now," Trump said. He said the previous name was "woke."

The order comes as some of Trump's closest supporters on Capitol Hill proposed legislation that would codify the new name into law, with Congress having the sole power to establish, shutter and rename federal departments. Absent a change in law, Trump will authorize the Pentagon to use secondary titles. "From 1789 until the end of World War II, the United States military fought under the banner of the Department of War," Florida Republican Rep. Greg Steube, an Army veteran, said in a statement. "It is only fitting that we pay tribute to their eternal example and re-



President Donald Trump speaks during a dinner in the State Dining Room of the White House, Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

nowned commitment to lethality by restoring the name of the 'Department of War' to our Armed Forces."

Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla., and Mike Lee, R-Utah, are introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

The Department of War was created in 1789, then renamed and reorganized through legislation signed by President Harry Truman in 1947, two years after the

end of World War II. The Department of Defense incorporated the Department of War, which oversaw the Army, plus the Department of the Navy and the newly created independent Air Force.

"We decided to go woke and change the name to Department of Defense," he said. "So we're going Department of War."

Pentagon leader Pete Hegg-

eth, who spoke alongside Trump, said, "We haven't won a major war since" the name was changed. He said, "We're going to go on offense, not just on defense." Trump has said he wants to change the name back to the Department of War because it "just sounded better," and Heggeth recently hinted that the switch was around the corner.

Speaking to an auditorium

of soldiers Thursday at Fort Benning in Georgia, he said he might have "a slightly different title tomorrow."

In August, Trump told reporters that "everybody likes that we had an unbelievable history of victory when it was Department of War. Then we changed it to Department of Defense."

When confronted with the possibility that making the name change would require an act of Congress, Trump told reporters that "we're just going to do it."

"I'm sure Congress will go along," he said, "if we need that."

Trump and Heggeth have been on a name-changing spree at the Pentagon as they uproot what they describe as "woke" ideology, sometimes by sidestepping legal requirements.

For example, they wanted to restore the names of nine military bases that once honored Confederate leaders, which were changed in 2023 following a congressionally mandated review.

Because the original names were no longer allowed under law, Heggeth ordered the bases to be named after new people with similar names. □

NYC Mayor Eric Adams says he's willing to hear about other jobs

By **ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE and JAKE OFFENHARTZ**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Mayor Eric Adams said Friday that he is willing to listen to job opportunities that would allow him to serve his country, but has not yet received any "formal offers" and he intends to stay in office and continue campaigning for reelection.

The statement came amid revelations that intermediaries for President Donald Trump have reached out to people close to Adams to talk about whether the Democrat would consider abandoning his reelection campaign to take a federal job.

"While I will always listen if

called to serve our country, no formal offers have been made. I am still running for reelection, and my full focus is on the safety and quality of life of every New Yorker," he said.

In an interview, former Democratic New York Gov. David Paterson said he spoke with the mayor on Wednesday morning. Adams told him he wanted to remain in the race

but has received offers, according to Paterson.

"He said, 'Listen, they say I have some offers. I have a lot of offers.' Then he started laughing. And he was saying that, you know, he really doesn't want to leave and he's trying to work that out so he doesn't have to," said Paterson, who has endorsed Adams for reelection.

"He didn't get specific about it, but I got that in his heart of hearts, he really wants to stay. But I also got that, even though he didn't say it, that the odds can't be very good," he added. Adams' comments came a day after Trump told reporters he would prefer not to have Zohran Mamdani, the

33-year-old Democratic nominee, as the city's next mayor. He said he'd like to see two out of the three other major candidates which also include former Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Republican Curtis Sliwa leave the race to create a one-on-one contest.

During a trip to Florida earlier this week, Adams met with Steve Witkoff, a former real estate developer in New York who is now one of Trump's main diplomatic envoys in Washington, according to a person briefed on the discussions who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the private nature of the talks. It was unclear what specifically was discussed. □



New York Mayor Eric Adams speaks during a campaign launch rally at City Hall, Thursday, June. 26, 2025, in New York.

Associated Press

Justice Department talks about banning transgender gun owners spark fury across political spectrum

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department is drawing swift condemnation from gun rights groups and LGBTQ advocates alike after floating that it was considering restricting transgender people from owning guns a move that would all but certainly face immediate constitutional challenges if ever implemented.

The discussions come in the wake of the shooting at a Minneapolis Catholic school last month that federal officials have said was carried out by a transgender shooter, according to a person familiar with the matter. The person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations, cautioned that the talks were in the early stages and that no proposal has been finalized.

Even so, that high-level officials in the Trump administration were discussing such an idea sparked fury across the political spectrum. LGBTQ advocates called it misguided and dangerous as the vast majority of mass shootings in the U.S. are



Attorney General Pam Bondi speaks during a human smuggling news conference Thursday Sept. 4, 2025, in Tampa, Fla.

carried out by men and do not involve transgender people.

"Transgender people are less than 2% of the overall population, yet four times as likely to be victims of crime," GLAAD said in an email. "Everyone deserves to be themselves, be safe, and be free from violence and discrimination. We all deserve leaders who prioritize keeping all of us safe

and free."

Since Trump returned to office, his administration has targeted transgender people in several ways, including removing them from military service, scrubbing some federal websites of mentions of them, trying to bar changing the sex marker on passports, seeking personal information on gender-affirming care patients from doctors and

clinics, and seeking to bar transgender girls and women from certain sports competitions.

The Justice Department said in a statement in response to questions about the firearms talks that the agency is "actively evaluating options to prevent the pattern of violence we have seen from individuals with specific mental health challenges and substance

abuse disorders." But, the department said: "No specific criminal justice proposals have been advanced at this time."

Some conservative figures have coalesced around the idea of restricting guns for people diagnosed with gender dysphoria the unease a person may have because their assigned gender and gender identity don't match through a federal law that bars people from possessing firearms if they are "adjudicated as a mental defective."

"It's incredibly worrying that that seems to be on the table for them," Alejandra Caraballo, a transgender rights activist and Harvard Law School instructor. "This is not something that would be that incredibly difficult to do logistically or practically but it would be politically explosive in terms of the backlash of Second Amendment groups."

Guns rights advocates including politically powerful groups such as the National Rifle Association and Gun Owners of America vowed to fight any proposal that imposes a blanket gun ban targeting a segment of the population. □

Associated Press

Two DC teens arrested in congressional intern's fatal shooting

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two teenagers were arrested Friday on murder charges in the killing of a congressional intern who was struck by stray bullets during a shooting in the nation's capital a crime that President Donald Trump cited in announcing a law-enforcement surge in Washington. Eric Tarpinian-Jachym, 21, of Granby, Massachusetts, was fatally shot on the night of June 30 near Washington's Mount Vernon Square.

Both suspects in his killing Kelvin Thomas Jr. and Jailen Lucas are 17-year-old juveniles but are charged as adults with first-degree murder while armed, according to U.S. Attorney Jeanine Pirro.

Police were searching for a third suspect whose name and age weren't immediately released.

Tarpinian-Jachym was an "innocent bystander" who

wasn't an intended target of the gunfire, Pirro said at a news conference where she was flanked by D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and the city's police chief.



U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jeanine Pirro, center, speaks at a news conference regarding seized chemicals bound for a Mexican drug cartel in Pasadena, Texas, on Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

"Eric didn't deserve to be gunned down, and the system failed him the system that felt that juveniles needed to be coddled," Pirro said. "This killing underscores why we need the authority to prosecute these younger kids, because they're not kids. They're criminals."

Tarpinian-Jachym was a rising senior at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He was in Washington to work as a summer intern in the office of Rep. Ron Estes, R-Kansas.

In July, the House observed a moment of silence after Estes paid tribute to Tarpinian-Jachym, calling him "a dedicated, and thoughtful and kind person who loved our country."

"We will never forget his presence and kindness

in my office," Estes said. "Those he met in his short term in my office will not forget him, either."

Trump mentioned Tarpinian-Jachym's killing but not his name during an Aug. 11 news conference where he announced a federal intervention for a "public safety emergency" in the District of Columbia.

"Any level of gun violence in our city is unacceptable," Bowser said.

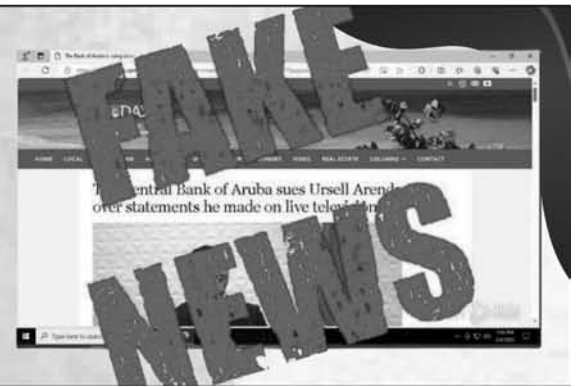
Attorney General Pam Bondi said Friday's arrests are "a testament to President Trump's efforts to make Washington, D.C., safe again."

"The Department of Justice will continue our work to prevent other young people from suffering the same fate as Eric," Bondi said in a statement. □

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Shiite ministers walk out as Lebanon's Cabinet debates army plan to disarm Hezbollah

By ABBY SEWELL
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's Cabinet discussed Friday a plan drawn up by the Lebanese army to disarm the Hezbollah militant group and consolidate weapons in the hands of the state but appeared to back off from a previously announced deadline to implement it by the end of the year.

Upon the arrival of the army chief, Gen. Rudolph Haikal, ministers from Hezbollah's political bloc as well as the allied Shiite Amal party and an independent Shiite minister, Fadi Makki, withdrew from the meeting room. The Hezbollah and Amal ministers then left the government palace.

The Shiite ministers had also walked out in protest from the meeting last month in which the Cabinet commissioned the army with drawing up a disarmament plan under which only state institutions in the small nation will have weapons by the end of the year. Information Minister Paul Morcos said after Friday's meeting that the army "will start implementing the plan, but according to the available resources there are limited material and human logistical resources" and that the military "has the right of operational discretion."

He did not specify a new timeline for implementation.

Morcos also said that Israel had not held up its end of the agreement laid out in a U.S.-brokered ceasefire that halted the latest Israel-Hezbollah war in November. Since then, Israeli forces have continued to occupy five strategic hills inside Lebanese territory and to carry out near-daily



Lebanese President Joseph Aoun, centre background, leads a cabinet meeting to discuss the army plan for disarming Hezbollah, at the Presidential palace in Baabda, east of Beirut, Friday, Sept. 5, 2025.

airstrikes.

"Israel, like Lebanon, has clear obligations" under the agreement, Morcos said. "However, its continued violations constitute evidence of its reneging on these obligations and seriously threaten regional security and stability."

Israel's military says its strikes aim to prevent Hezbollah from rearming and to protect residents of its northern border area.

Since the ceasefire, Hezbollah has been under increasing domestic and international pressure to give up its remaining arsenal.

Hezbollah officials have said that the group will not consider disarmament until Israel withdraws from all Lebanese territory and halts its attacks.

After last month's decision to pursue a disarmament plan, Hezbollah accused the government of caving to United States and Israeli pressure and said it would "treat this decision as if it

does not exist."

A Hezbollah official who spoke on condition of anonymity, in accordance with the group's procedures, said Friday that the ministers had agreed to withdraw when the army commander arrived "because we consider that this plan comes out of an illegal decision and we will not debate a matter that is built on a basis that we do not recognize as legal."

Lebanese officials proceeded with caution on disarmament, fearing that an attempt to take Hezbollah's remaining weapons by force could trigger civil conflict.

Since the ceasefire, the Lebanese army has regularly collected caches of weapons and ammunition from the area south of the Litani River, from which Hezbollah has largely withdrawn, but the group's heavier missiles and drones have remained hidden.

The Israel-Hezbollah war

started when Hezbollah began firing rockets across the border on Oct. 8, 2023, one day after a deadly Hamas-led incursion into southern Israel that sparked the war in Gaza. Israel responded with shelling and airstrikes in Lebanon, and the two sides became locked in an escalating conflict that became a full-blown war in late September last year.

The Israel-Hezbollah war killed over 4,000 people in Lebanon, including hundreds of civilians, and caused destruction worth \$11 billion, according to the World Bank. Much-needed international funding for reconstruction is likely to be contingent on Hezbollah's disarmament.

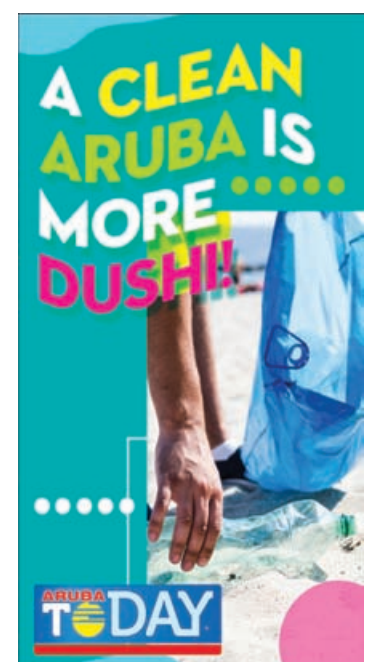
In the days ahead of Friday's Cabinet session, Israel intensified its strikes in southern Lebanon. Lebanese health officials said Thursday that a series of Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon the day before killed four people and injured 17,

including four children.

Lebanon's foreign ministry in a statement condemned the strikes and called on "the international community to pressure Israel to halt its ongoing attacks and respect Lebanon's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the safety of its people."

The Israeli army said in statements that it had targeted Hezbollah military sites and a facility in the village of Ansariyeh that it said was storing "engineering equipment designated for the organization's reconstruction and to advance terrorist plans." An Associated Press photographer who visited the site afterwards found a lot storing bulldozers.

On Wednesday the U.N. peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon, UNIFIL, said Israeli drones dropped four grenades close to its peacekeepers as they were working to clear roadblocks near the border. The Israeli army said that it didn't intentionally target the peacekeepers, but dropped several sonic bombs near a suspect in the border area. □



Daughter of Nazi officer who stole 'Portrait of a Lady' and her husband charged with cover-up

By BRUNO VERDENELLI and ISABEL DEBRE

Associated Press

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina (AP) — Prosecutors in Argentina on Thursday charged the daughter of a fugitive Nazi official with trying to hide an 18th-century painting from authorities following revelations that it had been stolen from a Jewish art dealer during World War II.

The federal prosecutor in charge of the case announced the cover-up charge a day after Patricia Kadgien, one of the daughters of high-level Nazi officer Friedrich Kadgien, handed "Portrait of a Lady" by Italian artist Giuseppe Ghislandi to the Argentine judiciary eight decades after it was stolen. The fate of the work remains unclear, pending a decision in the case. The heir of Jacques Goudstikker the Dutch-Jewish art collector who owned the painting before Nazis confiscated his world-famous inventory has made a legal claim to get the painting back, her lawyers have said.

Goudstikker died in a shipwreck in 1940 while fleeing the Netherlands as German troops advanced. He sold his collection, which



Patricia Kadgien, right, one of the daughters of fugitive Nazi official Friedrich Kadgien, and her husband, Juan Carlos Cortegoso, left, attend a court hearing in the case of the theft of the 18th-century Italian "Portrait of a Lady," which was taken from a Jewish collector during World War II, in Mar del Plata, Argentina, Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025.

included Rembrandts and Vermeers, under duress and far below market price. At least 1,100 stolen works from his gallery remain missing.

The Argentine court has asked that the painting be displayed at the Holocaust Museum in Buenos Aires ahead of any further transfer abroad. The museum did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Patricia Kadgien, 59, and her husband, Juan Carlos Cortegoso, 62, have been under house arrest on suspicion of concealing the painting since police raided their home on Monday for the second time in as many weeks without finding "Portrait of a Lady." Kadgien, with disheveled dirty-blond hair and sunglasses on her head, wore a look that mixed concern and puzzlement as she lis-

tened to Prosecutor Carlos Martínez in a jam-packed courtroom. Martínez said that Kadgien's and her husband's efforts to hide the painting over several days following its sudden appearance in a real estate listing amounted to obstruction of justice. Cortegoso gazed straight ahead, his arms crossed and a stern expression on his face.

After the hearing the cou-

ple was released from house arrest but barred from traveling abroad and required to notify the court whenever they leave their registered address.

Photos of the painting hanging in Kadgien's living room in Mar del Plata surfaced last month for the first time in eight decades in an online real estate advertisement. Dutch journalists investigating Kadgien's past in Argentina where he took refuge after the collapse of the Third Reich spotted "Portrait of a Lady" hanging above a green velvet couch in the living room during a 3D tour of the house for sale.

After recognizing it as the same portrait listed as missing in international archives of Nazi-looted art, the newspaper Algemeen Dagblad published an exposé on Aug. 25 that grabbed headlines around the world. Alerted by international police agency Interpol, Argentine authorities raided the house and other properties belonging to Patricia Kadgien and her sister Alicia, seizing a rifle, a .32-caliber revolver and several paintings from the 19th-century that they suspect may have been similarly stolen during WWII. □

Associated Press

European human rights body denounces arrest of Turkish activist critical of Erdogan



Republican People's Party, or CHP, candidate for Istanbul Ekrem Imamoglu addresses supporters at his party headquarters in Istanbul, Turkey, March 31, 2024.

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — A Council of Europe delegation on Friday denounced the arrest of a Turkish human rights and LGBTQ+ activist who was detained after delivering a speech critical of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government at a session of Europe's leading human rights body.

Enes Hocaogullari, who took part in a March meeting of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, as one of Turkey's youth delegates, was arrested last month after he criticized the detention of Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu and other opposition figures.

The 23-year-old activist also spoke out against alleged police violence during protests that erupted following Imamoglu's arrest. Marc Cools, president of a delegation of the Council of Europe's local and regional authorities congress, said there was no legal justification for

Hocaogullari's prosecution or detention. "Silencing Enes is silencing youth and silencing youth is silencing democracy itself," Cools said after visiting Hocaogullari in prison Friday and meeting a day earlier with Turkey's deputy justice minister and other officials in Ankara.

Hocaogullari was taken into custody at Ankara's Esenboga airport in August and later charged with "publicly disseminating misleading information" and "inciting hatred and enmity among the public." The first hearing of his trial is scheduled for Sept. 8.

"We hope that justice will prevail, that all charges will be dropped, that he will be immediately released," Cools said.

Imamoglu, a popular opposition figure seen as the main rival to Erdogan in the presidential elections, was arrested in March over allegations of corruption, which he strongly denies. □

A quick snack for the road

Learn how to make the Aruban Pastechi!

(Oranjestad)—If you ever been to Aruba before, you probably heard of (and even tried) the Aruban Pastechi. Beloved by young and old, this tasty treat is a staple for party snacks, a quick lunch or even breakfast!

Here's how to make the Pastechi dough.

Ingredients:

- 4 cups of wheat flour
- 1 tbsp baking powder (if using self-rising flour, omit baking powder)
- 1 tsp salt

- 1 tbsp sugar
- 0.5 cup of melted butter
- 1 cup water
- 1 egg

Directions:

Sift your flour into a bowl and add all the dry ingredients before giving it a quick mix. Next add the butter, water and egg and mix until thoroughly combined. At this point, your dough will start to get sticky; time for an arm workout. Knead your dough into the bowl you are using or on a clean surface with some flour lightly dusted until its surface is smooth. You'll know your dough is ready when it doesn't stick to your hands or the surface on which you're kneading it. Let your dough rest covered for 15-20 minutes.

After resting, divide your

dough into approximately 100 gram balls and roll it flat with a rolling pin. The thickness of the pastechi depends on your taste, but the average thinness would be around 1/4 inch or so.

Filling for the pastechis varies according to your taste. The easiest and most common filling you'll find in Aruba is a simple cheese filling. For this, we usually use shredded Gouda, but feel free to use any cheese that melts well when frying the pastry.

Place the filling on your rolled out piece of dough, fold it in half and pinch the sides shut with a fork. If you have a folding tool, feel free to use it for this process. Your pastechi is

ready for the fryer!

If you want to store some pastechis for later use, you can freeze them. A good tip is to place a piece of wax paper in between each pastechi if you are to store them on top of one another. This way the pastechis don't stick to each other when defrosting. Here in Aruba we enjoy pastechi at any time of the day, but it has become almost tradition to eat pastechi for breakfast on the way to work. Many roadside snack trucks sell pastechi from early morning to noon, and offer a variety of fillings like cheese; ham and cheese; ground beef and pulled chicken to name a few. □



The Bali Restaurant: a touristic hot spot and lost gem on the island



(Oranjestad)—Once located in what is now the Renaissance Marina, the Bali Restaurant was once both a touristic and local hot spot, and nowadays it's considered a forgotten gem on the island.

Known as "the floating restaurant", Bali first opened in 1955 by Willem "Bill" Strijland, who had experience in Javanese cuisine. At the time, the restaurant was pretty exclusive—with space to host only 25 guests. Yet, 4 years later, it was named the best restaurant in the Caribbean by the Caribbean Tourist Association.

The restaurant was probably most iconic for its Javanese-inspired exterior with its pointy, slanted roofs. However, the first version of Bali did not look like that at all but was still considered as one of the most popular restaurants on the island at the time. The restaurant saw three different owners during its existence, during which it underwent various renovations and re-branding.

In 1964, the restaurant was taken over by Karel "Carl" Schmand. Over the years, the restaurant needed constant renovation and repair, mainly due to its vulnerability to leaks and the unstable pillars underneath the foundation. However, the biggest change made to the restaurant happened

in the year 1970—still under the ownership of Schmand, when it got its iconic pointy roofs. The restaurant was also expanded to host a total of 85 guests. This was "The New Bali", who had its official (re) opening in 1972.

After 1972, when Ronny Schmand took over, the restaurant saw yet another expansion; this time complete with a long bar and dance floor, where guests enjoyed live music from legendary Aruban musician and composer, Toti Arends.

After 1989, the restaurant was again handed over to other owners, and since then suffered from unstable pillars underneath the foundation, resulting in various leaks and overflowing of water into the restaurant. And as most great things come to an end, so did the survival and maintenance of the Bali Restaurant. However, folks today still reminisce its legacy, and it's now considered a lost monument.

Be apart of the conversation: if you or any family member of yours have a memory of the Bali restaurant, whether it be a picture or just a story, share it with us! We would love to see this legendary hot spot through the lens of our visitors! □

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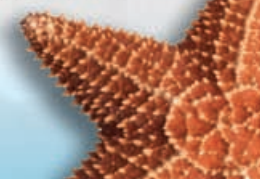
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THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

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Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market
Shalom Body & Soul Spa | Moments & Memories Jewelry
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
Treasure Cove | El Patio Tacos & Tequila | M8 Boutique
Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar



Aruba to me: "Amazing wildlife"



ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Martin Reinstein from New York City.

He wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is seeing amazing wildlife and sunsets."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"*. This is also one

of the few sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breath-taking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

Casibari

Probably the busier rock formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced

area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south. Right in front of the entrance, there is the Casibari Café and Grill, a great place to get refreshments and snack before continuing your off-road adventure!

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the

boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!

*Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi! □



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The Aruban way of life; Creating community with Cas di Torto



(Oranjestad)—The Aruban people understand that a happy life is spent in great ambience with your loved ones. Passed down from one generation to the other, building community has been a key aspect in forging our traditions and customs. The Cas di Torto (mud house) played a big role in cultivating community, bridging families together and forming close bonds with your neighbors—something we highly value today.

Cas di Torto: History and construction

The origin of the Cas di Torto is said to date back to the early 19th century in the Paraguana Peninsula in Venezuela. Refugees who sought sanctuary on Aruba introduced this building method to the island.

The uprights of the walls were made with sturdy and straight wayaca or kwihi wood, or from thin mangrove struts. Then, the wattle walls were weaved in using branches and twigs from the warero and sisal plant, daubed with a mixture of grass and mud. Fi-

nally, the walls got a coat of white plaster to seal everything in.

For roofing, corn stalks, palm fronds and straws were used, allowing air to flow freely through the house. This method of roofing was known throughout the ABC islands (Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire), but the use of cornstalks in Aruba eventually got replaced with use of mud and white plaster for the roofs. The white plaster all around made the houses look like cake, hence the name "Torto" (Spanish for "cake").



Building community

Building Torto houses was often a community effort. Young couples who were about to get married had to have their house built before they could tie the knot and start their own family. This is where the help of the community comes into play.

Neighbors, extended family and friends would all help in the construction of a Torto

House. And everyone had a role: The men oversaw the building of the house, and the women were tasked with collecting wood and straws, cooking and taking care of the little ones.

The couple's family were primarily responsible for feeding everyone who helped build the house. Before construction, someone usually had the task to prepare the meal; going

fishing or slaughter farm animals like goats, chicken or sheep. Even the older kids had their tasks; the older children of the family usually helped with collecting water and mixing the mud.

The average duration of constructing a Cas di Torto was 4 months.

At the end of a long day of work, everyone would gather around and enjoy a feast of hearty food. This type of help from friends and family became a tradition and was called "paga lomba": You help me today; I'll help you tomorrow.

Nowadays, traditional Cas di Torto are rare, especially those that are still inhabited. Houses that do exist probably date back more than a century. □



Picture credits: Aruba National Library (BNA) and the Monumentbureau archive on Coleccion.aw

Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

(Oranjestad)—Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls



The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center.

For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

The Lighthouse



No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The

name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light.

Kayak in the Mangroves



Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else.

There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook.

Philip's Animal Garden



To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. □

A brief history of the California Light House



(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curacao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck. These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was



full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very

interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curacao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curacao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down,

and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations. □

CROSSWORD

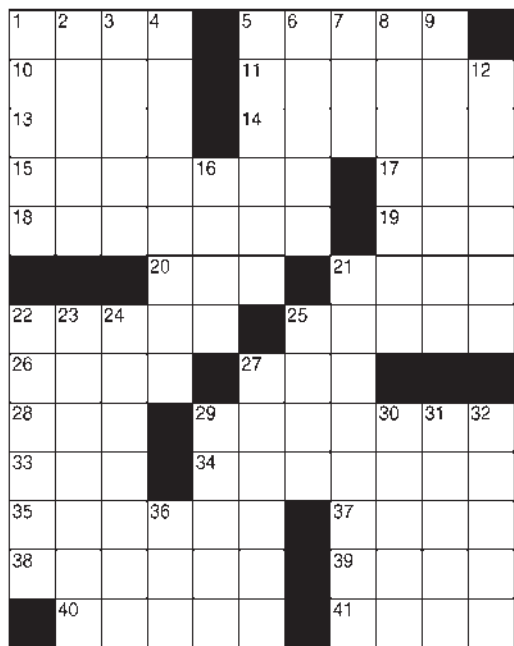
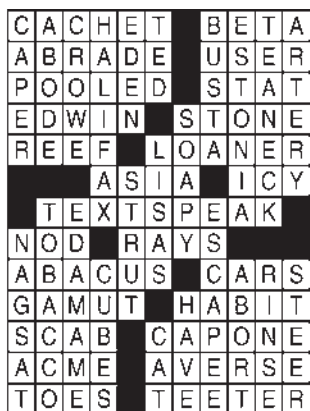
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Antlered animal
5 Employee group
10 Gigantic
11 Sealed with pitch
13 Med. sch. subject
14 Gaming center
15 Say inadvertently
17 Salt, in France
18 Quakes
19 Nest egg acct.
20 TV spots
21 New driver, often
22 Woodard with four Emmys
25 Ken of "F Troop"
26 Role
27 Animated sitcom "American —!"
28 Egg: Prefix
29 Navy people
33 "My word!"
34 Ship in 1912 headlines
35 Kovacs and Hudson
37 Sonic the Hedgehog's company
38 Salad green
39 Uttered
40 Snaky shapes

DOWN

- 1 Commandments verb
2 Old TV dial
3 Banded rock
4 Emmy-winning Don Adams comedy
5 Steps
6 Diamond covers
7 Curved path
8 Emmy-winning Kelsey Grammer comedy
9 Tennis star Roger
12 Dana of "China Beach"
16 Ore source
21 Emmy-winning Jason Sudeikis comedy
22 Orbital point
23 Shirley's TV pal
24 Emmy-winning Lisa Kudrow comedy
25 Lure
27 Speakers' stands
29 Carell of "The Office"
30 Cager Shaquille
31 Unbending
32 A lot
36 Sue Grafton's "— for Innocent"



9-11

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-11

CRYPTOQUOTE

JRR USV CZIUSN JWV FWDHV

VAQVWBCVIUN, ZDU ZP KSBFS

USV QVWPVFU NVQUVCOVW BN

CJHV. — LBWTBIBJ KZZRP

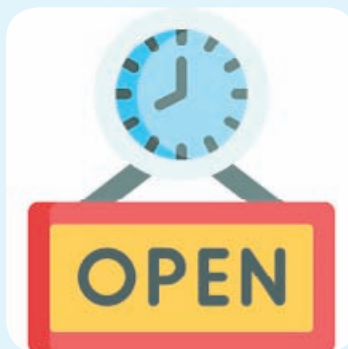
Cryptoquote: NOBODY GETS BETWEEN ME AND MY MICROPHONE. — SINEAD O'CONNOR

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 02 - 18 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	02	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	C	1
WED	10	CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00	16.00	C	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
THU	11	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	17.00	C	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



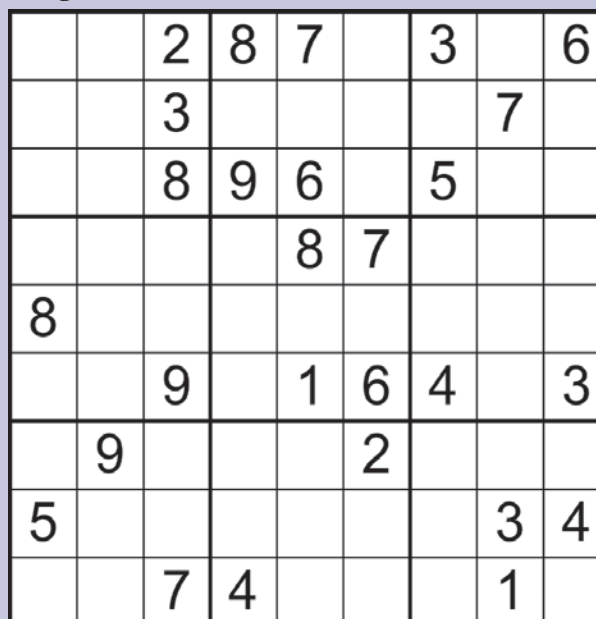
Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

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Answer to previous puzzle

3	9	6	7	1	4	8	2	5
2	7	8	3	9	5	6	1	4
4	1	5	6	8	2	9	3	7
7	2	1	8	6	9	5	4	3
9	5	3	4	7	1	2	8	6
6	8	4	5	2	3	1	7	9
5	6	7	2	4	8	3	9	1
1	3	2	9	5	7	4	6	8
8	4	9	1	3	6	7	5	2

Difficulty: ★★★

9/5

Attorneys general warn OpenAI and other tech companies to improve chatbot safety

By **MATT O'BRIEN** and
THALIA BEATY
Associated Press

The attorneys general of California and Delaware on Friday warned OpenAI they have "serious concerns" about the safety of its flagship chatbot, Chat-GPT, especially for children and teens.

The two state officials, who have unique powers to regulate nonprofits such as OpenAI, sent the letter to the company after a meeting with its legal team earlier this week in Wilmington, Delaware.

California AG Rob Bonta and Delaware AG Kathleen Jennings have spent months reviewing OpenAI's plans to restructure its business, with an eye on "ensuring rigorous and robust oversight of OpenAI's safety mission."

But they said they were concerned by "deeply troubling reports of dangerous interactions between" chatbots and their users, including the "heart-breaking death by suicide of one young Californian after he had prolonged interactions with an OpenAI chatbot, as well as a similarly disturbing murder-suicide in Connecticut. Whatever safeguards were in place did not work." The parents of the 16-year-old California boy, who died in April, sued OpenAI and its CEO, Sam Altman, last month.

OpenAI didn't immediate-



Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI, takes his seat before a meeting of the White House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence Education in the East Room of the White House, Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

ly respond to a request for comment on Friday.

Founded as a nonprofit with a safety-focused mission to build better-than-human artificial intelligence, OpenAI had recently sought to transfer more control to its for-profit arm from its nonprofit before dropping those plans in May after discussions with the offices of Bonta and Jennings and other nonprofit groups.

The two elected officials, both Democrats, have oversight of any such changes because OpenAI

is incorporated in Delaware and operates out of California, where it has its headquarters in San Francisco.

After dropping its initial plans, OpenAI has been seeking the officials' approval for a "recapitalization," in which the nonprofit's existing for-profit arm will convert into a public benefit corporation that has to consider the interests of both shareholders and the mission.

Bonta and Jennings wrote Friday of their "shared

view" that OpenAI and the industry need better safety measures. □



Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuero
Oriana Geerman

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

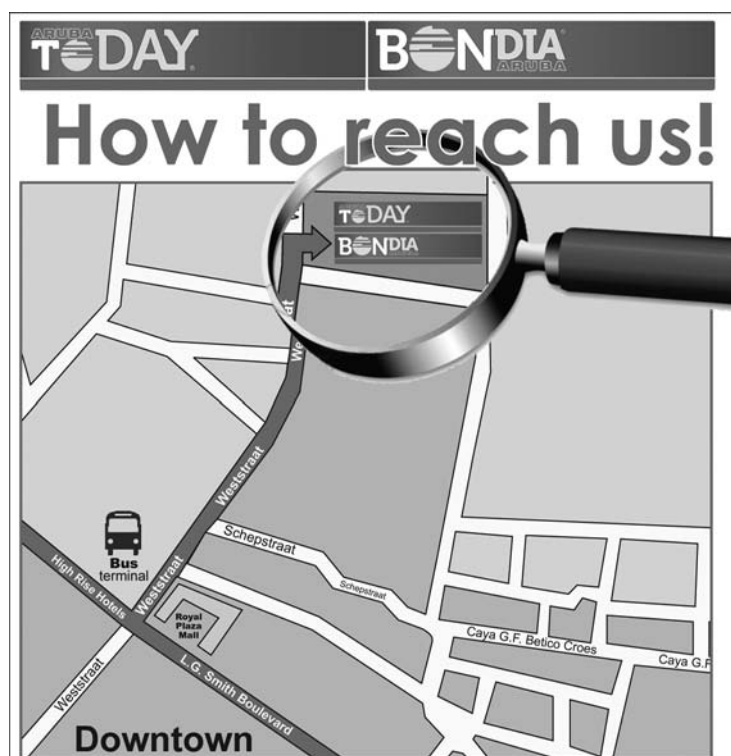
accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @ArubaTodayNews



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Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

del Pueblo: Tel. 582 1253

San Nicolas:

Seroe Preto: Tel. 584 4833

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank	Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired	Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous	Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous	Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia Relacional	Tel. 583 5400
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Trillion dollar man: New pay package could make Musk that much richer if Tesla thrives

By MICHELLE CHAPMAN
and BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writers

The world's richest man could become its first trillionaire if Elon Musk hits a series of extremely aggressive targets for his electric car company over the next decade, according to a proposed pay package released by the company. Tesla said in a regulatory filing Friday that it will hand Musk shares worth as much as 12% of the company in a dozen separate packages if the company meets certain performance targets, including massive increases in car production, share price and operating profit. If approved by shareholders, the new pay package could make Musk the world's first trillion dollar executive, and would mark a new level of outsized pay in a country already known for extreme compensation. But the payoff is in shares, not cash, and the goals are extreme as well. Musk overcame doubters to turn Tesla into the world's most valuable car company, but he could face even steeper odds in hitting the targets set by the company's compensation committee not least because of Tesla's main business of making electric vehicles is currently in a slump, in part because of Musk's foray



Elon Musk listens as President Donald Trump meets with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Oval Office of the White House, Feb. 13, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

into right-wing politics. "It doesn't matter how much money he gets. He can't help himself," said Telemetry analyst Sam Abuelsamid who follows Tesla stock, which has plummeted 27% from its December high. "And the more he talks, the more he turns off potential customers." To get his first package of shares equivalent to 1% of the company, Musk would have to convince investors in the stock market that Tesla is worth \$2 trillion in total, double what they value it today, and also hit sev-

eral other milestones. To receive all the shares offered and make him the world's first trillion-dollar man would require that market value to then rise to \$8.5 trillion, double that of the world's most valuable company now, chipmaker Nvidia. Among other goals, sales of all Tesla vehicles would eventually also have to reach 20 million, nearly triple its entire sales since it was founded more than two decades ago. Musk would also have to vastly expand Tesla's robot and robotaxi businesses by

selling a million of the bots and a million of the driverless cabs, the latter a business that has only begun to roll out its taxi service and is behind rivals, such as Waymo. Musk would also need to remain with Tesla for at least seven and a half years to cash out on any stock, and 10 years to earn the full amount. Musk has been one of the richest people in the world for several years. He is currently estimated to be worth more than \$400 billion by Forbes magazine.

A condition of the 11th and 12th tranches of the plan includes Musk coming up with a framework for someone to succeed him as CEO. The plunge in Tesla sales this year was largely due to blowback over Musk's affiliation with President Donald Trump. Tesla also faces intensifying competition from the big Detroit automakers and particularly from China. Tesla sales have fallen precipitously in Europe after Musk aligned with a far-right political party in Germany. Sales plunged 40% in July in the 27 European Union countries compared with the year earlier even as sales overall of electric vehicle soared, according to the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association. Meanwhile sales of Chinese rival BYD continued to climb fast, grabbing 1.1% market share of all car sales in the month versus Tesla's 0.7%. Without a reversal of those trends, meeting the financial goals could prove especially difficult. In its most recent quarter, Tesla reported that quarterly profits plunged from \$1.39 billion to \$409 million. Revenue also fell and the company came up short of even the lowered expectations on Wall Street. □

Google facing \$425.7 million in damages for nearly a decade of improper smartphone snooping

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal jury has ordered Google to pay \$425.7 million for improperly snooping on people's smartphones during a nearly decade-long period of intrusions. The verdict reached Wednesday in San Francisco federal court followed a more than two-week trial in a class-action case covering about 98 million smartphones operating in the United States between July 1, 2016, through Sept. 23, 2024. That means the total damages awarded in the five-year-old case works out to about \$4 per device.

Google had denied that it was improperly tracking the online activity of people who thought they had



A sign is displayed on a Google building at their campus in Mountain View, Calif., Sept. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

shielded themselves with privacy controls. The company maintained its stance even though the eight-person jury concluded Google had been spying in violation of California privacy laws. "This decision misunderstands how our products work, and we will appeal it," Google spokesman Jose Castaneda said Thursday. "Our privacy tools give people control over their data, and when they turn off personalization, we honor that choice." The lawyers who filed the case had argued Google

had used the data they collected off smartphones without users' permission to help sell ads tailored to users' individual interests a strategy that resulted in the company reaping billions in additional revenue. The lawyers framed those ad sales as illegal profiteering that merited damages of more than \$30 billion. Even though the jury came up with a far lower calculation for the damages, one of the lawyers who brought the case against Google hailed the outcome as a victory for privacy protection. □

Jalen Carter awaits discipline from the NFL, which made sportsmanship a priority

By **ROB MAADDI**
AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL made it clear before the season that sportsmanship would be a point of emphasis.

Jalen Carter provided the first example of misconduct. Now, he awaits discipline from the league.

With tens of millions watching the reigning Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles taking on the rival Dallas Cowboys, Carter spat on Dak Prescott six seconds into the league's opener on Thursday night.

The 24-year-old defensive tackle, a second-team All-Pro last season, was ejected from the game, forcing the Eagles to play without their best defensive player. They still won 24-20.

A fine is expected and a suspension is a possibility, though Carter's contrition after the game and precedent should help his case. Players have been fined for spitting on opponents in the past, but there doesn't appear to be a case where anyone was suspended for doing it. Carter would appeal any suspension through the NFL Players Association, so it would be difficult for such a penalty to hold up considering prior disciplinary measures by the league.

Disqualifying Carter was an easy call for the officials, who've been instructed by the league to maintain order.



Philadelphia Eagles defensive tackle Jalen Carter (98) walks off the field after being disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct before an NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, in Philadelphia.

Teams were informed there would be no tolerance for unsportsmanlike or inappropriate gestures. Players were shown a video in which league executive Troy Vincent, a six-time Pro Bowl cornerback during his playing career, said: "Respect your opponent, respect your teammates and play the game in between the whistles."

Carter spitting on Prescott was the ultimate sign of disrespect.

"I don't know how you can do that as a man, first of all," Hall of Fame coach Tony Dungy said on NBC's broadcast.

"But then to let your team-

mates down, that's unspeakable."

Rodney Harrison, who was a two-time All-Pro safety over a 15-year career with the Chargers and Patriots, called it "very selfish and very disrespectful."

Carter has previously demonstrated a pattern of poor discipline.

He was penalized three times for unnecessary roughness last season and was also benched to start a game in a disciplinary move by coach Nick Sirianni. One of Carter's penalties in a game against Pittsburgh last December led to Sirianni having a heated conversation with defen-

sive line coach Clint Hurtt, who stood in front of the player on the sideline when the coach approached him.

Carter also was fined \$17,445 for an open-handed blow to the head of Washington Commanders center Tyler Biadasz in the NFC championship game. The Eagles were only in position to draft Carter in 2023 with the ninth overall pick because several teams passed him up due to his role in a fatal car crash in college that killed a teammate, offensive lineman Devin Willock, and a Georgia recruiting staffer, Chandler LeCroy.

Carter received one year of probation and was fined \$1,000 after pleading no contest to misdemeanor charges of reckless driving and racing related to the wreck.

Carter's ejection should have sent a message to both teams that the league is serious about officials enforcing sportsmanship.

That didn't stop Philadelphia's Nolan Smith Jr. from earning a taunting penalty for standing over Miles Sanders and flexing after stopping him for a loss on a run play.

"There's no place in the game to be standing over your opponent," Vincent said in the video that was sent to teams before the season.

Sirianni addressed his team's personal fouls after the game.

"I want these guys to play with great energy, great tenacity while doing it within the rules of the game," he said. "I know we had one with Nolan and one with JC, and that creates short fields for an offense. Again, we want to be there. We want to have great energy, tenacity, all those different things, but we've got to do it within the rules of the game, and we will address that."

We'll go through that, but we've got to get better in that scenario. We need that guy on the field. He's a really good player."□

McIlroy shoots 66 and powers into contention at Irish Open. Lagergren leads after a 62

STRAFFAN, Ireland (AP) — Rory McIlroy hit a bogey-free 6-under 66 to move into contention after the second round of the Irish Open, where Joakim Lagergren of Sweden leads after a 62 on Friday.

McIlroy jumped into a share of third place after making six birdies at The K Club, two of them coming at the last two holes to thrill the deep galleries following their Northern Irishman on his homecoming.

"Amazing the whole day," McIlroy said. "Even just walking to the range for the warmup today, the support is absolutely incredible."

I'm looking forward to playing in that atmosphere for the next couple of days as well."

The world No. 2 will have to reel in Lagergren, who led on 12-under par after 36 holes, and Adrien Saddier of France, who added a 66 to an opening 67 and was one stroke back.

The 33-year-old Lagergren has history at The K Club. Last year, when playing the Irish Challenge here on the adjoining Palmer South Course, he shot a course-record 63 and then holed out from a bunker to make eagle on the 72nd hole and earn a one-stroke victory.

"Ireland is treating me well," Lagergren said.

McIlroy was tied on 7 under with Thorbjorn Olesen (71), Daniel Hillier (66) and Alfredo Garcia-Heredia (65).□



Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy reacts to a putt on the third green during the second round of the Irish Open golf tournament, Friday, Sept. 5, 2025, at The K Club in Straffan, Ireland.

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MLB's regular season enters its final 3 weeks. Here's a look at the playoff picture and awards races

By **DAVID BRANDT**
AP Baseball Writer

There's a wide divide in finances between Major League Baseball's big-market and small-market teams.

As for the win column? Not so much.

The 2025 season has produced a surprising show of parity through the first five months of the regular season. While most of the league's big spenders teams like the Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Yankees and New York Mets are in good position to make the playoffs and do damage in October, they haven't been as dominant as many expected.

In fact, there's a good chance that this will be the second season in a row no MLB franchise will top 100 wins. The only team with a realistic shot is the Milwaukee Brewers, who rank 23rd in the league with a \$112



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Tarik Skubal throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals, Sunday, Aug. 31, 2025, in Kansas City, Mo.

Associated Press

million payroll. They'll have to go 14-7 over their final 21 games to hit 100. The last time there were

no 100-game winners in back-to-back seasons was a three-year stretch from 2012 to 2014.

With three weeks and roughly 20 games remaining for most teams, here are some things to watch

as the regular season winds down:

Playoff races

Their might be no truly dominant teams this season, but there's also a pretty clear picture of the 12 teams that could make the post-season bracket six in the National League and six in the American League.

In the AL, the Yankees, Toronto Blue Jays, Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers and Houston Astros have a more than 95% chance to make the playoffs, according to ESPN's projections. A sixth team the Seattle Mariners sit at a roughly 75% chance.

There are still several teams with hope, including the Texas Rangers (12.8%), Kansas City Royals (10.0%), Tampa Bay Rays (9.6%) and Cleveland Guardians (2.8%). The NL race has an even bigger gap between the top six teams and the rest of the league. □